

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-8 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 3-5 and 8 are rejected. Claims 1, 4 and 5 are objected to. Applicants have amended claims 1, 4 and 5.

The enclosed amendments are purely formal in nature and respond to minor informalities identified by the Examiner. No new search and no new issues are raised. Accordingly, the amendments should be entered, notwithstanding the finality of the outstanding Office Action. Moreover, since the Examiner has now withdrawn all previous prior art rejections in view of the Applicant's arguments and amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that the application should be passed to issue.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because the phrase "at least one copper pool phases" in line 3 should be changed to "at least one copper pool phase". Applicants respectfully submit that the change had been made in the previous amendment, although the strikethrough of the "s" may not have been clear at first glance. Since the change already had been made, no further correction is required.

Claims 4-5 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being of improper dependent form. Specifically, with respect to the recitation "according to any one of claims 1 to 3" as recited in each of claims 4 and 5, the Examiner notes that claim 2 is canceled, therefore claims 4 and 5 depend from a canceled claim. An appropriate amendment has been made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1, 3-5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

The Examiner notes that claim 1 recites the limitation "the molybdenum particles" in line 6. The Examiner finds insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

The claim has been amended to remove this basis for rejection.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-7 are allowed. Applicants respectfully submit that with the amendments provided herein, all remaining claims are allowable.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Alan J. Kasper/

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Alan J. Kasper
Registration No. 25,426

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